

Eastern Christian College/Fair Meadows
Creswell Road
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

"Fair Meadows" , the manor house of Harford Furnace built for Clement Dietrich, the last owner of the Furnace, is currently in the process of being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. The house, built in 1868, is said to have been modelled on the French chateau where Clement and Catherine Dietrich spent their honeymoon. The fifteen-room mansion was built at a cost of \$93,000. The grounds were landscaped with a rose garden and fountain in front and a walk lined with jonquils leading to gardens around the round springhouse and swimming pool. The craftsmanship of the ornament in the house is superb: parquet floors, each of a different pattern, ceiling and frieze plaster ornament, carved wooden screens, and elaborate marble mantelpieces.

Although the grounds are no longer landscaped as they were originally, several of the stone outbuildings have survived, and the house is almost exactly as it was originally.

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Fair Meadows

and/or common Clement Dietrich Estate/Eastern Christian College

2. Location

street & number West side of Creswell Road, south of inter- — not for publication
section with Cavalry Roadcity, town Creswell ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Harford code 025

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Eastern Christian College, Attention: Jeff Bullock

street & number Creswell Road

city, town Bel Air — vicinity of state Maryland 21014

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Harford County Courthouse

street & number 40 South Main Street

city, town Bel Air state Maryland 21014

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

e has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ nodate ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

HA-1067

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on the west side of Creswell Road (Md. Rte. 543) south of the intersection with Cavalry Road (Md. Rte. 136), this Second Empire 2-1/2 story stone mansion facing south was built in 1868 for the last owner of the Harford Furnace, Clement Dietrich.

Five-bays wide and two-rooms deep, this house of regularly-laid ashlar shows a mixture of continental influences with its mansard roof, cupola, dormers with rounded hoods, and stone quoins at the corners and framing the windows and door openings. On the north is a frame addition, and the northeast corner of the house is of frame rather than stone construction.

There are four brick chimneys: two on the west and one east of center with corbelled caps, and one plain exterior chimney in the north facade. Windows are arched with 2/2 sash and stone segmental arches with projecting keystones. Each flank of the roof contains three dormers, whose wide eaves are supported on carved consoles. The cornice is similarly supported--here the consoles are of alternating lengths. The south--or front--facade is spanned by a one-story, hip-roofed porch with a pedimented central projecting pavilion. It is said to have extended around the west side as well at one time.

The interior has a central hall plan. Except for the enclosure of the top two flights of the staircase and the north end of the hall to house a fire staircase, the original structure and ornament are virtually intact.

The first story floors have intricate inlay designs, and the center hall has black and white marble tiles. Ceilings and friezes have plaster ornament of formal geometric or naturalistic designs, and several of the original crystal chandeliers are still in place. Mantels are white marble with three-dimensional naturalistic designs or black marble with incised designs.

Also on the property are six outbuildings. West of the house are the ruins of a round springhouse with a copper roof.

North of the house is a one-story stone carriage house with a mansard roof and dormers similar to those on the main house. The fenestration on this structure has been altered, with most of the door openings replaced by windows.

Northwest of the house is a brick smokehouse laid in eight-stretcher bond and set on a stone foundation.

Farther north are three coursed rubblestone structures with hipped roofs and exposed eaves. These buildings are one story in height and appear to be contemporary to the house.

8. Significance

HA-1067

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1868

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

The significance possessed by Fair Meadows in Creswell, Harford County, Maryland stems from two sources. First, as a residence executed in a richly ornamented but conservative interpretation of the Second Empire style, Fair Meadows embodies the distinctive characteristics of a period and type of architecture that, while popular in the U.S. in the 1860s and 1870s, was rarely used in its "high style" form in rural Maryland. Its important features include the exterior stonework, intact interior tile flooring, plaster ornamental work and marble mantels and a mansard-roofed carriage house. Second, as the house which was the residence of Clement Dietrich, an entrepreneur who substantially expanded the Harford Furnace Iron Works to include flour and saw mills and a large chemical manufacturing plant, Fair Meadows is associated with a person significant in Harford County's industrial history.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Fair Meadows was erected for Clement Dietrich, a man of sophisticated and flamboyant tastes. A native of France, he first settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1830, where he ran a soap and candle manufacturing industry and was president of the Dayton and Michigan Railroad. In 1867, Dietrich purchased the Harford Furnace Iron Works near Creswell, Maryland, on James Run which flows into the Bush River, and a year later built this 15-room mansion for an astounding cost of \$93,000.

Harford Furnace was the only iron furnace on Bush River and one of 2 in southern Harford County. The furnace comprised at least some of the land of the Bush River Iron-Works, whose date of precept was 1746, thus establishing a 130-year iron working tradition by the time of its demise in 1876. When Clement Dietrich owned the Furnace, the iron industry in Maryland was floundering due to its inability to adapt to technological innovations introduced elsewhere and the increasing popularity of steel. Dietrich's supplementary operations (i.e. the chemical works) indicate his attempt to shore up Harford Furnace's operations by diversifying the product. His attempt failed and he went bankrupt in 1876. Furthermore, quite a large and important community with all of a town's services (except government) grew up around the Furnace and the whole complex figured importantly in the cultural development of southern Harford County and the industrial development of the regions. The furnace was located some distance to the south of Fair Meadows.

Dietrich went bankrupt in 1876 and his property was sold at a sheriff's sale. The property subsequently was headquarters of a chicken farm and

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

HA-1067

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Fair Meadows
Harford County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

the estate of Ronald Harris, Mayor of Wilmington. The Eastern Christian College purchased the site in 1958 and now uses the mansion as its administration building.

With dense development occurring right up to the edges of the site, the mansion, associated outbuildings, and their immediate landscaped setting remain intact as a discrete unit. Four new buildings have been constructed in the northwest and northeast portions of the 18.6 acre site owned by the College. But they have not been included in the boundaries of the nomination. Their removal from the boundaries of the site leaves an el-shaped lot, which includes all the buildings associated historically with the mansion and their immediate setting as they were originally, with no intrusions.

9. Major Bibliographical References

HA-1067

Wright, C. Milton, Our Harford Heritage, 1967.
Land, Will, and Equity Records of Harford County.
18 Martenet's Map/1858 Jennings and Herrick Map
McGrain, John, The Molinography of Maryland.
Portrait and Biographical Sketches of Harford and Cecil Counties, New York, 1897.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 10.4 acresQuadrangle name Edgewood Quadrangle andQuadrangle scale 1:24000UMT References Bel Air Quadrangle

Bel Air Quad.

Edgewood Quad.

A

1	8	3	9	1	0	6	0	4	3	7	2	9	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

1	8	3	9	1	2	4	0	4	3	7	2	8	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	8	3	9	1	3	1	0	4	3	7	2	6	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

1	8	3	9	1	0	0	0	4	3	7	2	5	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
ate	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites SurveyorHarford County Historic Districtorganization Commissiondate March, 1980street & number 45 South Main Streettelephone (301) 838-6000 x 207city or town Bel Airstate Maryland 21014

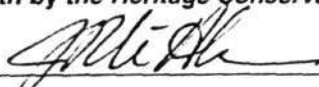
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



8-27-80

title

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

date

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Fair Meadows
Harford County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

BEGINNING at a point on the northernmost boundary of the lot as described in Liber 565 folio 631 of the Harford County Land Records: North 71° 37' East 100' to a concrete monument, said monument being the northwesterly most corner of a parcel conveyed to Jung, thence, leaving the entire tract outline and binding on the Jung parcel for the following three courses, as now surveyed, viz: South 19 degrees 36 minutes East 100 feet. to a monument, north 72 degrees 36 minutes East 302.16 feet to a monument on the southwesterly side of Creswell Road continuing North 72 degrees 36 minutes East 20 feet to a point in the center of said road, thence leaving the Jung parcel and binding on the South 19 degrees 36 minutes East 23.23 feet to a point, said point being the northeasterlymost corner of an 0.40 acre parcel conveyed to J. H. Drumm, thence leaving the center of said road and binding on the outlines of the said 0.40 acre Krumm parcel for the following 5 courses, as now surveyed, viz: South 69 degrees 24 minutes West 20 feet to a monument on the southwesterly side of said road, continuing South 69 degrees 24 minutes West 180.08 feet to a monument, south 19 degrees 36 minutes East 96.14 feet to a monument, North 70 degrees 31 minutes East 180 feet to a monument on the southwesterly side of the aforesaid road, continuing North 70 degrees 31 minutes East 20 feet to a point in the center of said road, thence leaving the J. H. Krumm parcel and binding on or near the center of said road the two following courses, viz: South 19 degrees 36 minutes East 474.88 feet, South 20 degrees 29 minutes East 162.36 feet, thence leaving the center of said road and running South 69 degrees 31 minutes West 989.29 feet to a pipe, North 18 degrees 23 minutes West 180' to a monument, then due East 400', then due North 255' then due East 160', and due North 375' to the place of beginning, containing approximately 10.4 acres more or less.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the proposed site include that portion of the estate that remains intact as it was when Clement Dietrich lived here: the mansion and associated outbuildings and the part of the landscaped setting that maintains the original scheme--the entrance drive, south and east lawns, and the pond, which is still reached by a daffodil-lined walkway. This represents the core of the original estate, and excludes the section on which Eastern Christian College's new buildings are located.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fair Meadows

AND/OR COMMON

Clement Dietrich Estate/Eastern Christian College

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Creswell Road, south of intersection with Cavalry Road

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Eastern Christian College

Attn: Jeff Bullock

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Creswell Road

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland, 21014**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE
Maryland 21014**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN*

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HA-1067

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the west side of Creswell Road (Md. Rte. 543) south of the intersection with Cavalry Road (Md. Rte. 136), this 2½ story stone mansion facing south was built in 1868 for the last owner of the Harford Furnace, Clement Dietrich.

Five bays wide and two rooms deep, this house of regularly-laid ashlar shows a mixture of continental influences with its mansard roof, cupola, dormers with rounded hoods, and stone quoins at the corners and framing the windows and door openings. On the north is a frame addition, and the northeast corner of the house is of frame rather than stone construction.

There are four brick chimneys: two on the west and one east of center with corbelled caps, and one plain exterior chimney in the north facade. Windows are arched with 2/2 sash and stone segmental arches with projecting keystones. Each flank of the roof contains three dormers, whose wide eaves are supported on carved consoles. The cornice is similarly supported—here the consoles are of alternating lengths. The south-or front-facade is spanned by a one-story, hip-roofed porch with a pedimented central projecting pavilion. It is said to have extended around the west side as well at one time.

The interior has a central hall plan. Except for the enclosure of the top two flights of the staircase and the north end of the hall to house a fire staircase, the original structure and ornament are virtually intact.

The first story floors have intricate inlay designs, and the center hall has black and white marble tiles. Ceilings and friezes have plaster ornament of formal geometric or naturalistic designs, and several of the original crystal chandeliers are still in place. Mantels are white marble with three-dimensional naturalistic designs or black marble with incised designs.

Also on the property are several outbuildings. West of the house are the ruins of a round springhouse with a copper roof.

North of the house is a stone carriage^{house} with a mansard roof and dormers similar to those on the main house. The fenestration on this structure has been altered, with most of the door openings replaced by windows.

Northwest of the house is a brick smokehouse laid in eight-stretcher bond and set on a stone foundation.

Farther north are three coursed rubblestone structures with hipped roofs and exposed eaves.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HA-1067

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Fair Meadows", the manor house of Harford Furnace built for Clement Dietrich, the last owner of the Furnace, is of National Register significance in its own right. The craftsmanship, as evidenced by the parquet floors, ceiling and frieze plaster ornament, carved wooden screens, and exterior stonework, is superb. The grandeur and level of stylistic consciousness are almost without peer among this building's contemporaries.

The man it was built for-Clement Dietrich-was obviously a man of sophisticated and flamboyant tastes. A native of France, he first settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1830. There he ran a company that manufactured soap and candles and was the president of the Dayton and Michigan Railroad. In 1862 he retired from his business and went to Europe, returning five years later to purchase the Harford Furnace. He had 10 children[†] died in 1884.

The house^{built in 1868} is said to have been modelled on the French chateau where he and his wife, Catherine, spent their honeymoon. The fifteen-room mansion was built at a cost of \$93,000; the grounds were landscaped with a rose garden and fountain in front and a walk lined with jonquils leading to gardens around the springhouse and swimming pool.

This property subsequently served as a chicken farm and was then purchased by Mr. Harris, Mayor of Wilmington, Delaware.

The Harford Furnace ironworks that closed down in 1876 was the last in a series of furnaces on Bush River. The first-Bush River Ironworks-was among the fifteen or twenty furnaces that were established between 1733 and 1767 under the Maryland General Assembly Acts allowing for land acquisition by writ ad quod damnum. The date of precept for the Bush River Ironworks was February 27, 1746; the date of patent was 1750: 70 acres on Bush River were granted to Isaac Webster, John Hall, and Jacob Giles. The exact location of the Bush River Ironworks is unknown. Described as being part of the "Come By Chance" and "Whitaker's Enlargement", it is thought to have been close to the town of Bush, since the original patent was described as being near the Quaker meeting house.

By the time the ironworks (comprising a furnace, grist mill, saw mill, dwellings, stables, smith shops and dam) were sold in 1776, John Bond, John Webster, and James Webster had joined the partnership. The reason for dissolution is undocumented, but one source suggests that the labor supply was erratic, consisting primarily of convicts transported or indented here (i.e. redemptioners whose services were sold to repay their passage expenses).

The second furnace in this area was established by three Pennsylvanians: John Kirk, Samuel Irwin, and John Withers. They agreed to raise a capital stock of \$18,000, each partner contributing a third. Land they acquired included 500 acres of "Montreal", 300 acres of "Mile's Forest", 500 acres of "Abbotts Forest", and 120 acres of "Creeds" as well as parts of "Jones' Addition" and "Hathaway's Hazard". They also acquired 205 acres of "Rangers Lodge" and "Nova Scotia" from St. George's Vestry, making a total of 1947 acres.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alexander, J.H., Report on The Manufacture of Iron Addressed to the Governor of Maryland, Annapolis, William McNeir, Printer to the Senate, 1840. (Alexander was Topographical Engineer of the State).
 Archer, George W., History of St. George's Parish, Harford County (from papers presented to the Maryland Historical Society by Joseph Lee Hughes)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main Street

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 Ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

HA-1067

In 1831 they sold out to Joseph and Edward Patterson and Richard Green who, in 1833, reorganized as the Harford Furnace Company.

They added to the land holdings with parts of "Daniel's Lott", "Come By Chance", "Bond's Adventure", and "Strawberry Hill" purchased at a public sale held by Albert Constable, Trustee. They also purchased 287 acres of "Acker's Hope" and "Ha Ha Indeed" from Marcha and Sophia Hall, 166 acres of "Montreal" and "Stony Ridge" from William Holland Divers, and 326 acres of "Friendship" and "Littleworth" from Henry D. Farnandis, Trustee.

The furnace was disassembled in 1839 and in 1845 was rebuilt as a steam and water furnace, 33 feet high, and 7½ feet wide at the boshes. By 1857, its main product was car-wheel metal and production had reached 1421 tons annually.

In 1861 ownership changed hands again. At that time, William F. Pannell (listed as postmaster and storekeeper on the 1858 Jennings and Herrick Map) purchased the furnace. During his proprietorship, the furnace was supplied by two ore banks: the Walsh ore bank-½ mile northeast of Sewell, with an opening 100 yards wide and 100-200 yards deep; and the Sewell ore bank-¼ mile north of Sewell, with an opening 300 feet wide and 60 feet deep. In addition, Davies suggests that ore banks near Little Gunpowder Falls around Joppa were leased on a royalty basis. Transportation of raw materials and the finished products was by the B&O and the Baltimore, Wilmington and Philadelphia railroads.

In 1867, William Pannell sold his 5056 acre holdings to Clement Dietrich, who added a chemical works to the furnace complex. By the time his mortgage was foreclosed and his property ordered to be sold in 1876, Harford Furnace comprised 5873 acres. According to a newspaper advertisement, the 5056 acre parcel sold to Dietrich by Pannell had on it: one charcoal iron furnace, water and steam power, of fifty tons capacity per week, with ore and charcoal kilns; a large chemical works for the manufacture of such products as pyroligneous acid, wood alcohol, acetic acid, sugar of lead, and acetates, consisting in part of: a carbonization building, 100 x 65 feet, with 24 cylinders and 8 furnaces, having a capacity of 600 bushels of charcoal and 1600 gallons of pyroligneous acid per day; a mythelene building, 60 x 20 feet, for manufacturing wood alcohol, with a 1000 gallons per month capacity; a building, 200 x 65 feet, for manufacturing acetic acid and acetates, etc., with stills, evaporators, engines, etc., with a 60 x 30 foot warehouse attached to it to store acids; also a "flouring mill" with water power, and a steam sawmill, 65 x 50 feet, with circular and upright saws. The parcel also included what is described as a stone mansion house "with the usual outbuildings", a stone dwelling, store house, warehouse and offices; three comfortable dwelling houses; 35 dwellings for employees, workmen, etc.; wheelwright, blacksmith, copper-smith, cooper and harness shops; barns, stables, barracks, "and other necessary outbuildings"; 400 acres in cultivation around the mansion house, with wood cuttings, young timber, and iron ore banks.

Two other parcels were included in Clement Dietrich's Harford Furnace holdings: one known as the Long Bar Farm, consisting of 510 acres sold to Dietrich by Josiah Lee in 1872. On it were a dwelling house, new corn and wagon house, new stables and other outbuildings, a 50 acre young peach orchard, a 1 acre pear orchard, iron ore banks, and 4 new dwellings "for the use of the hands employed thereat". The other 298 acre parcel, described as "unimproved", lay near Perryman. Fifty acres of wheat, 62 mules, 8 horses, 5 yoke of oxen, cows, and farm implements were also included in the package.

The demise of the Harford Furnace in 1876 paralleled concurrent developments in Maryland's iron industry. Between 1865 and 1885, 19 furnaces in Maryland were abandoned: the industry's antiquated and economically irrational methods could not compete with the rest of the country. Like Harford Furnace, most Maryland iron furnaces made their own charcoal and mined their own iron ore--they were relatively small hand-scale operations carried on in costly ways, run by a furnace boss who knew everything. Between 1860 and 1880, the industry became a highly-specialized, intricately-financed, automated production complex, and steel replaced iron as the main product.

Davies, M., Iron Forging and Smelting in Maryland; a Relict Industry; 1972, University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan

McBrain, John, The Molinography of Maryland

Portrait and Biographical Sketches of Harford and Cecil Counties, New York, 1897.

Robbins, Michael W.; Maryland's Iron Industry During the Revolutionary War Era; prepared for the Maryland Bicentennial Commission

Scharf, J. Thomas, The Natural and Industrial Resources and Advantages of Maryland, C. H. Baughman and Co., 1892

Simmons, James R., "Surveyor's Notation Recalls To Mind the History of Old Harford Furnace", Harford Gazette, June 27, 1949

Singewald, Joseph; The Iron Ores of Maryland; Johns Hopkins Press, Baltimore, 1911

Wright, C. Milton, Our Harford Heritage, 1967.

Land Records: SWC 246/414, SWC 242/294; ALJ 60/508-523; ALJ 60/434, ALJ 54/82, ALJ 48/340, ALJ 38/274, ALJ 31/432, HD 17/80, ALJ 2/217, WG 13/149, HD 24/209, HD 12/1, HD 18/151, HDG 35/278, HD 14/136, HD 18/150, HD 11/38, JGLP/69, JLGA /235, JLGA/218, JLG A/221, JLGA/184

Equity Records: ALJ 38/27

1798 Tax Assessment

1878 Martenet's Map

1858 Jennings & Herrick Map

INVENTORY NO. Ha-1067

ELECTION DISTRICT _____

DATE: 11/79

TAX MAP NO. _____

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

PARCEL NO. _____

NAME OF PROPERTY: Eastern Christian College/ Fair Meadows

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: West side of Creswell Rd., Creswell

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: South

NAME OF OWNER: Eastern Christian College

ADDRESS: Creswell Rd.

Bel Air, MD

21014

STORIES: 1[] 2[] 3[X] 4[] 5[] 6[] BAYS:

WINGS, ADDITIONS: Frame addition on northeast.

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

[] FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?)
[] BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
[X] STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
[] LOG

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[] 2/2[X] 6/6[] 9/6[] 9/9[] other[]
2/4 main story pegged[] nailed[] wide[] narrow[]
original[] replaced[]

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: Center bay south side

HARDWARE: original[] replaced[]

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: Bracketed cornice.

original[] replaced[]

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERS

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original[] replaced[]

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[] hip[X] gable[]

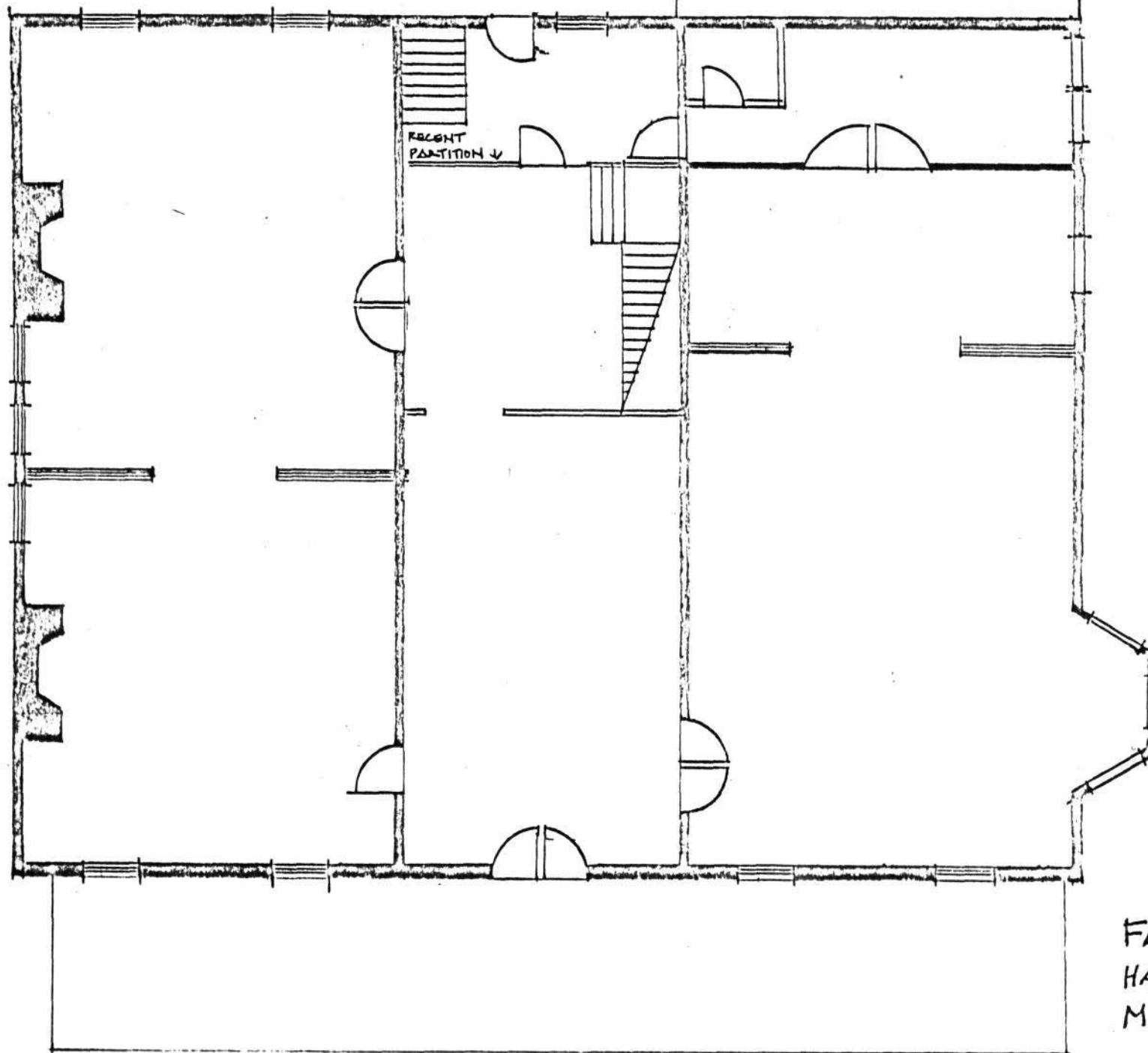
CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 4 BRICK[X] STONE[] CORBELED[X] original[] replaced[]

LOCATION: _____

ARCHES:

COMMENTS:

FRAME WING



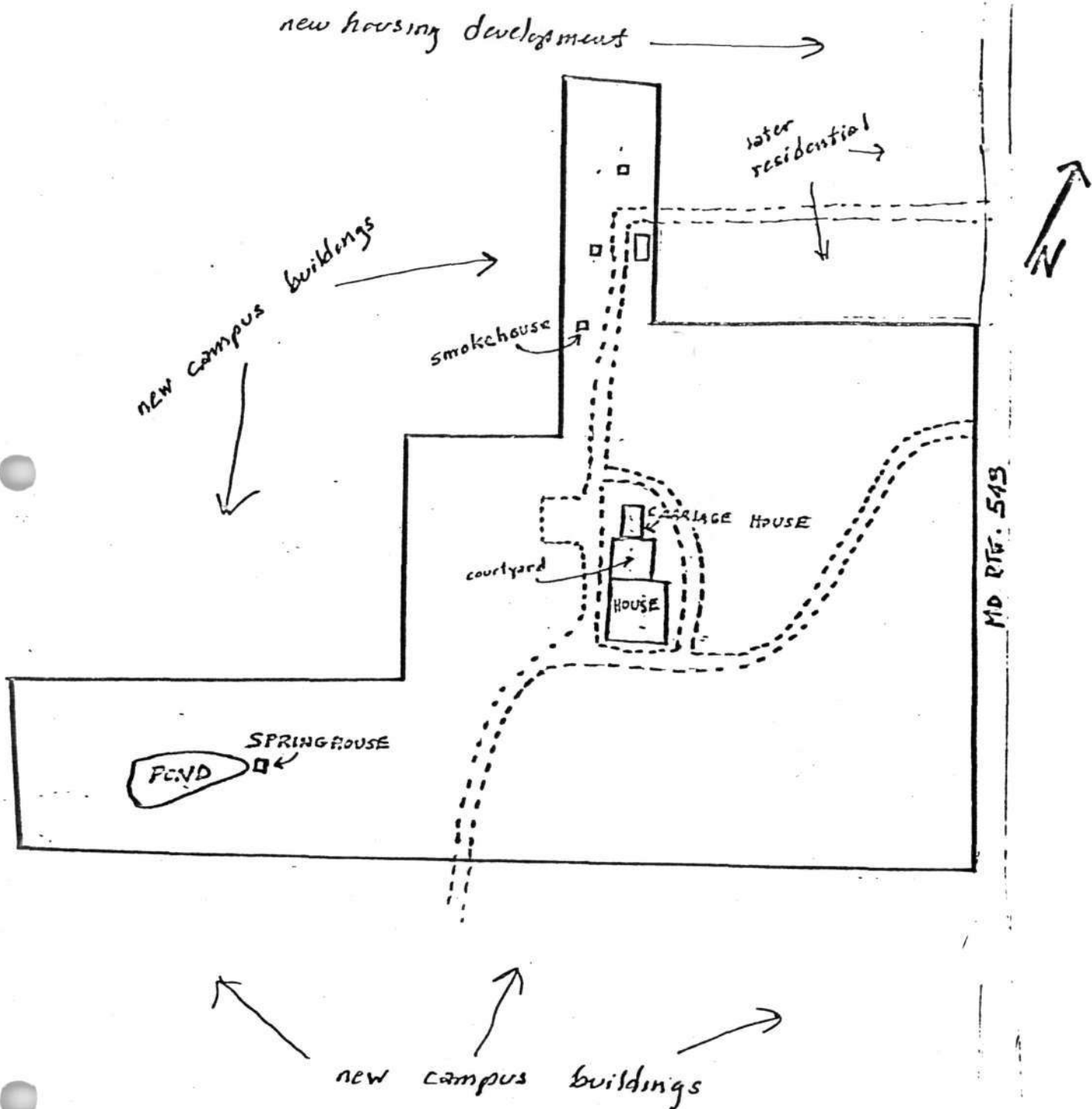
KA-1067

FAIR MEADOWS
HARFORD CO.
MARYLAND

not to scale
1980 NS

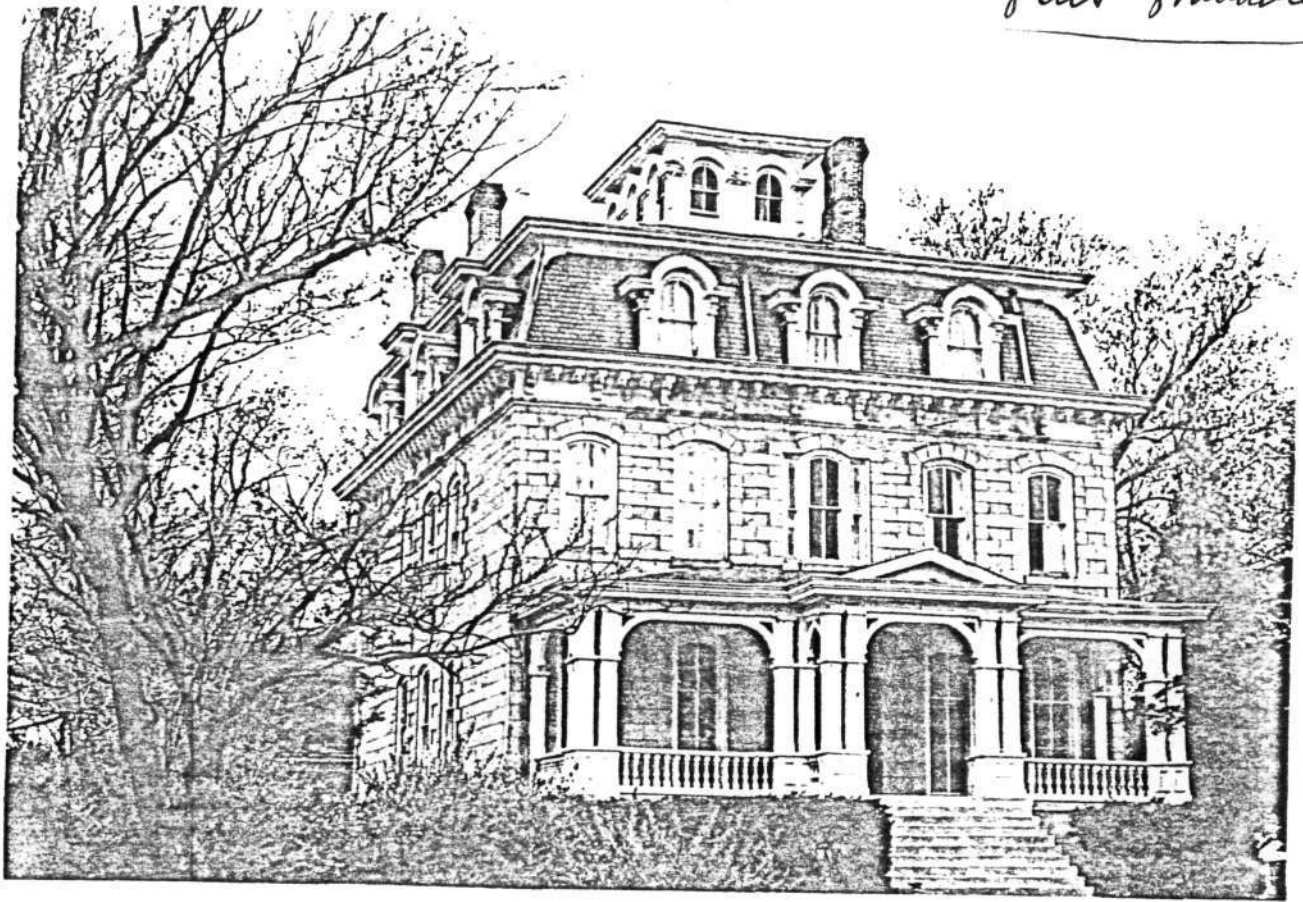
Fair Meadows
Harford County
Maryland

not to scale
sketch plan of property



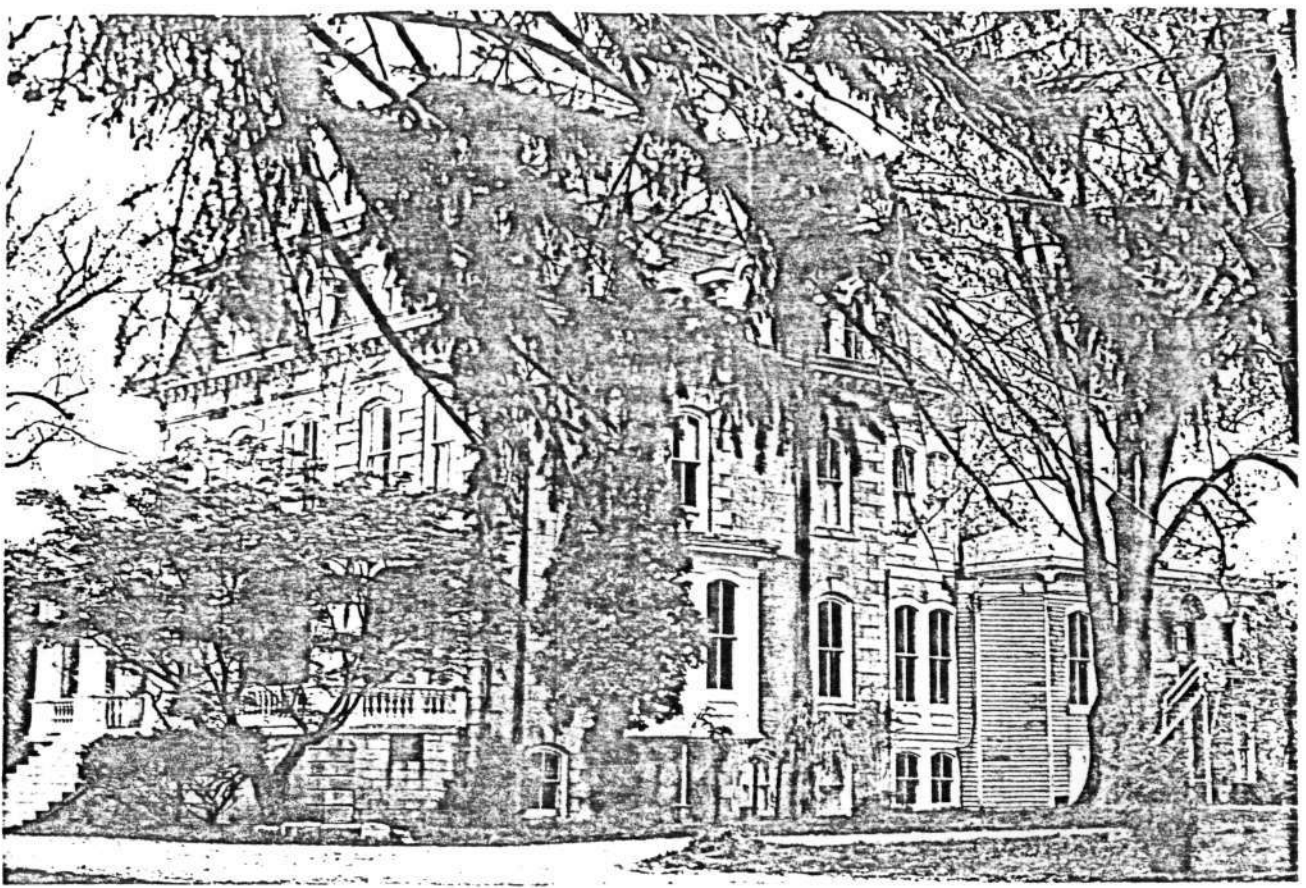
HA-1067

Fair Meadows

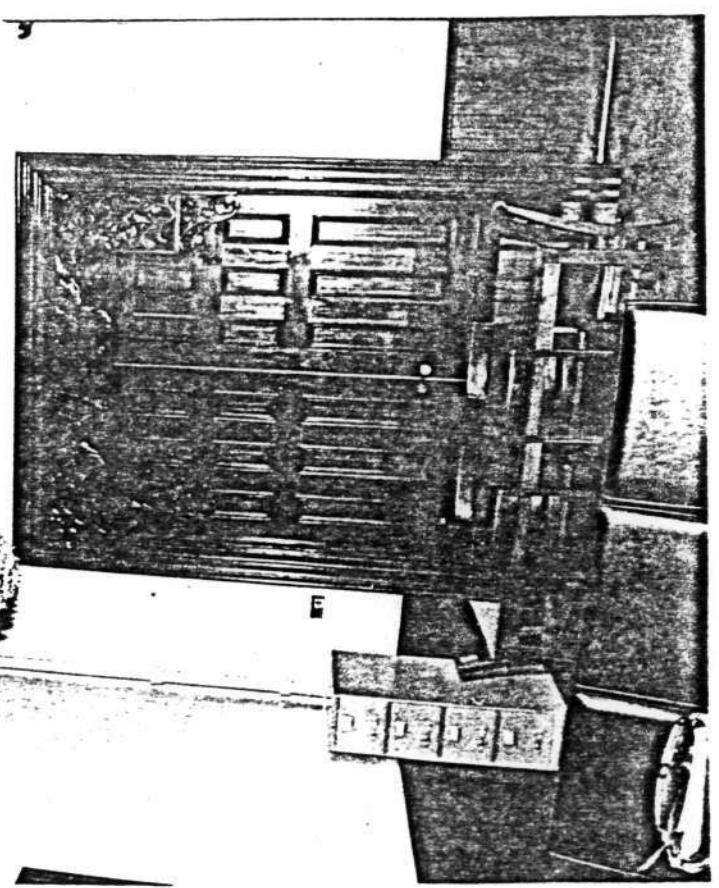


HA-1067

HA-1067

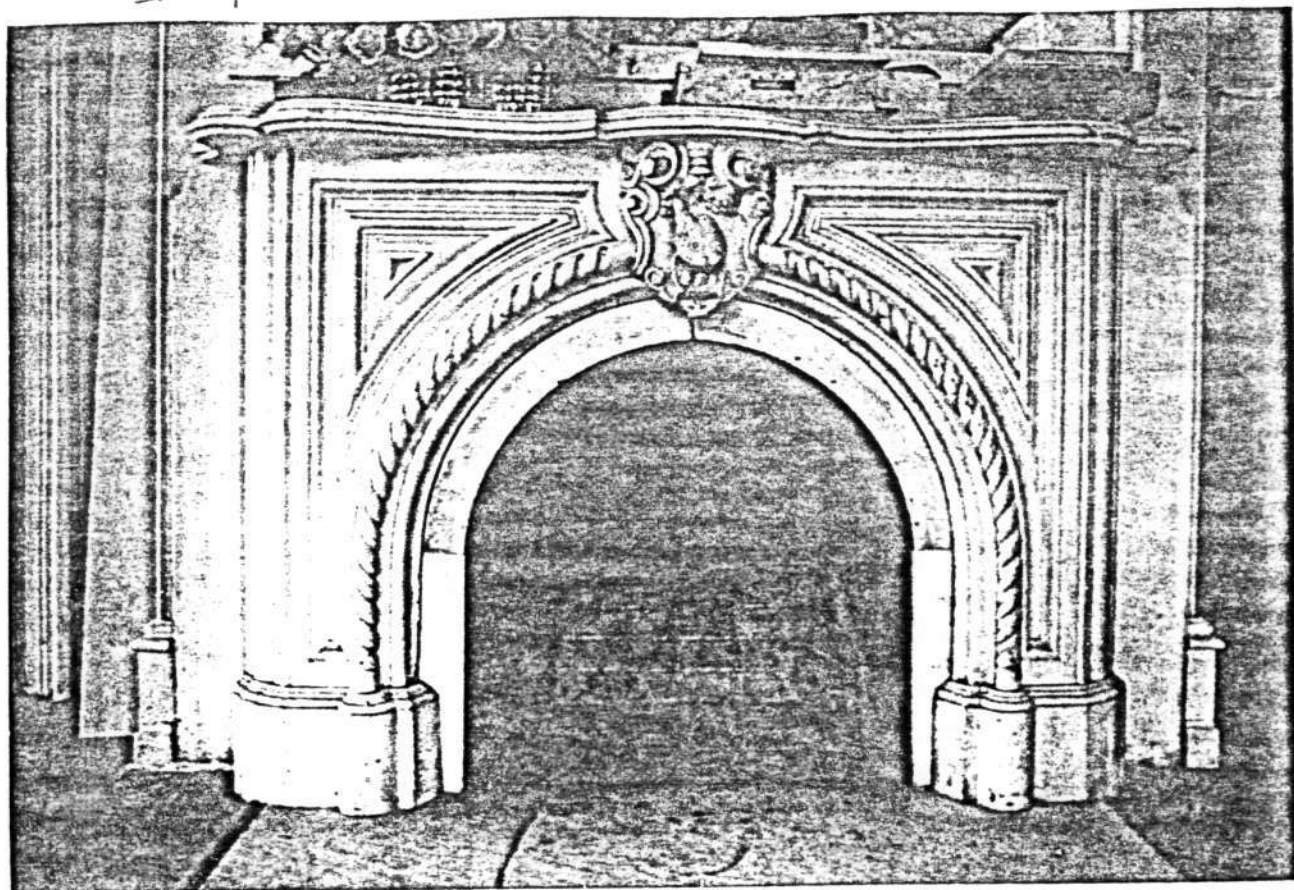


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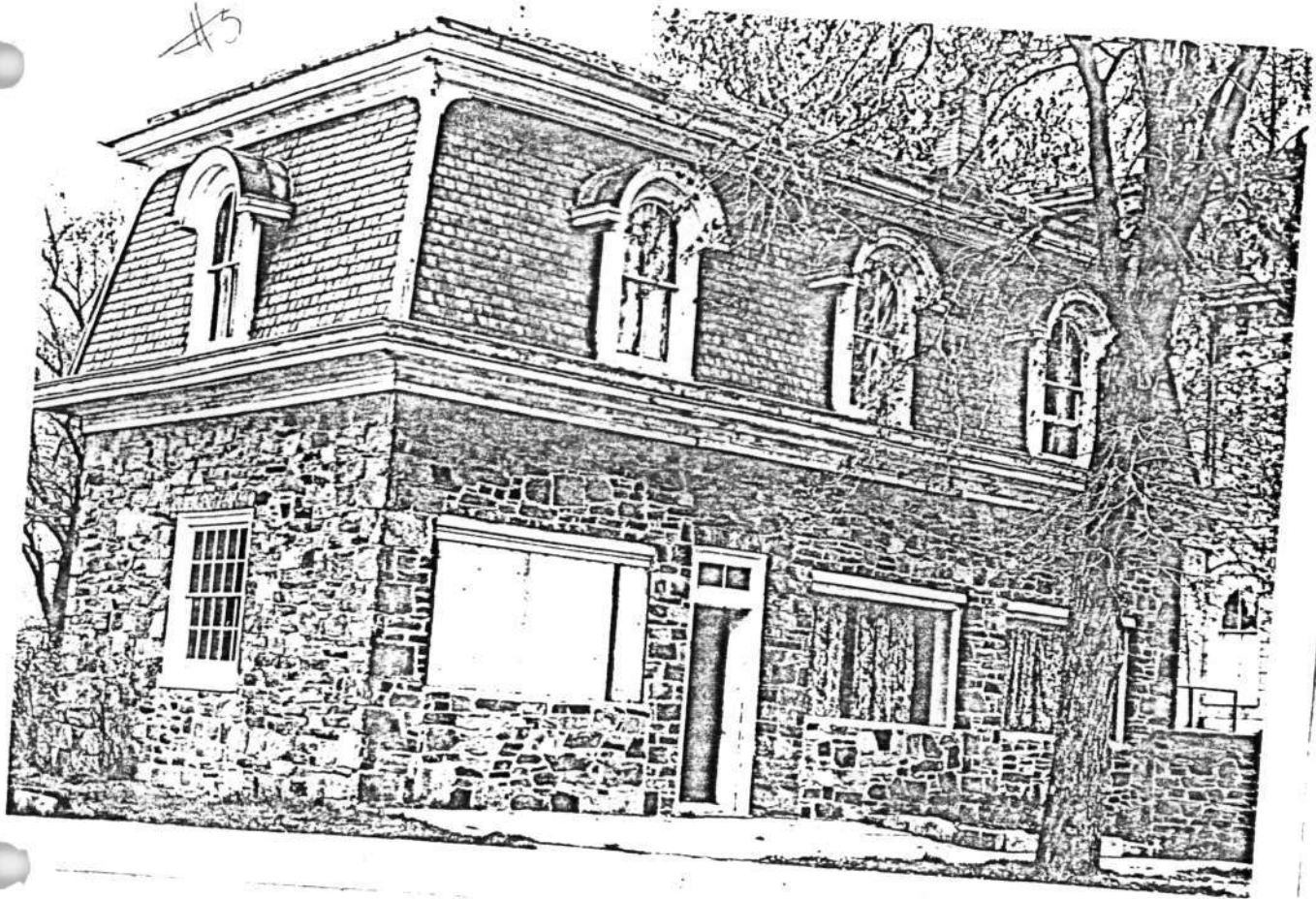


#3

#4



HA-1067





Eastern Christian College HA-1067
Creswell, Md. (Fair Meadows)
Natalie Shivers
May, 1979
Southwest



Eastern Christian College HA-1067
Creswell, Md.
Natalie Shivers
May, 1979
Southeast



Eastern Christian College HA-1067
Creswell, Md.
Natalie Shivers
May, 1979
Northwest

1310674502
2

HA 1067

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME			
COMMON: <u>Southern Christian College</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>West side, Fountain Green Road (Md 543) about</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Creswell</u> <u>0.6 mi south of Calvary Road</u>			
STATE: <u>Md</u>		COUNTY: <u>HARFORD</u> <u>(Md 136)</u>	
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP	STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<u>Vacant School.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: <u>Southern Christian College</u>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Fountain Green Road</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Creswell</u>		STATE: <u>Md</u>	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.			
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE</u> <u>40 S. MAIN ST.</u>			
CITY OR TOWN: <u>BEL AIR</u>		STATE: <u>MARYLAND</u>	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):			
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M 57
1st
Dist.

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This grand Victorian mansion is of (Post
Deposit) granite cut in perfect ashlar, three
high-ceilinged stories high over a fully lighted
basement. Its slate mansard roof is topped by
a belvedere.

Almost square, it faces south, 5 bays by 3.
A veranda (ten steps up) that once extended around
3 sides is accessible through french windows
2 lights over 4 on the south. Windows elsewhere
have 2 lights over 2 under segmented arches, with
dormers in the mansard eaves.

Interior details include marble mantels at
fireplaces placed on interior walls, stained glass
at the center hall doorway, embossed plaster ceiling
decoration, and a wall covering in the hall
of embossed metal, presumably tin, enameled
in a bright flower pattern, now painted over.
Gaslight fixtures were recently discarded.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1865-71

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Set on a knoll of beech, elm, pine and cypress trees, this imposing mansion survives from days of great wealth of the Walsh and Dietrich families. It is now headquarters for a religious education group in financial difficulties.

Outbuildings include a stable, granite with a mansard roof, the upper floor housing servants originally, and a small square brick toolhouse with hip roof, perhaps 80 or 100 years older than other buildings.

HA-1067

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mrs. Segroves at site.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: JEAN S. EWING	
ORGANIZATION MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	DATE
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 RIVA ROAD	
CITY OR TOWN: ANNAPOLIS	STATE: MARYLAND

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



HA 1067

from southwest

Eastern Christian College

JSE 7/73



4A 1067

Eastern Christian College (carriage horse made

dining room) Be 7/73



HA 1067

Smokehouse → Toolhouse

Eastern Christian College

BS

7/73

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HA-1067

Name Fair Meadows

Addendum-December 2010

Number __ Page 1

The property contains an excellent example of a stone Second Empire mansion. Although changes have been made from its historic appearance, such as the removal of a porch and the façade and its replacement with a patio, and maintenance has been deferred as evidenced by the peeling paint of the fascia, the building remains in as good or better condition than at the time of the previous survey and retains all aspects of integrity.



HA-1067

Fair Meadows

Harford County, MD

Sarah Traub

August 6, 2010

MD SHPO

Southeast facade toward Northwest

#7